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COUNTRY East GermanySECURITY INFORMATION
REPORT NO.TOPIC Soviet Air Force in WittenbergEVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED 27 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the period from early June to 6 September 1953, [redacted] observed that the Brueckenkopf Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by 400 to 450 men. After nightfall, almost all the windows of the billeting area were lighted. In late August, the previously reported motor vehicles [redacted] were still observed in the barracks yard where, occasionally, cleaning of AA guns was done. 1

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2. On 10 June, 24 apparently new and brown truck chassis were counted in the yard of the Brueckenkopf Kaserne in Wittenberg.

3. Between 15 June and 28 September, about 400 soldiers most of whom wore black-bordered blue epaulets and some with red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and transport insignia were quartered in the Brueckenkopf Kaserne. Drill, field training, and gun drill was repeatedly observed in the barracks yard, in the meadows at the Elbe River, and in the nearby AA gun emplacement which was occupied by 37-mm AA guns.¹ Aircraft observed on the nearby alternate airfield included Yak-14s [redacted]

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[redacted] The aircraft practiced flying at different times. 2

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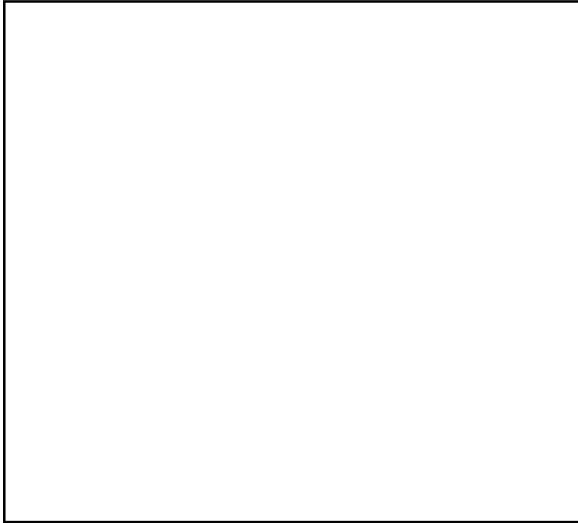
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5. Between 20 July and 3 October, soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were observed in the yard of the Brueckenkopf Kaserne while being engaged in athletics, drilling, march practices and cleaning of motor vehicles. Between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. on 31 August, 350 to 400 men without weapons fell in and formed a quadrangle one side of which was open; an officer delivered a speech. In early September, a number of recruits were among the soldiers. The alternate airfield was generally occupied by 2 biplanes and 2 high-wing monoplanes. Four 37-mm AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement between the airfield and the Elbe River. 1

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7. In late August, an estimated 400 to 500 men were quartered in the Brueckenkopf Kaserne. The sentries wore blue epaulets. On the afternoon of 23 August, aiming exercise was held with four AA guns with gun shields. The guns were directed at a wooden aircraft, about 50 cm large, which was fitted on a 10-meter-long rod. The truck chassis which had been observed in the yard of the barracks installation since 1952 were no longer seen there on 14 September 1953.

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1. Comment. The Brueckenkopf Kaserne in Wittenberg is believed to be occupied by the supply and signal units of the Hq Southern Ftr Corps. The occupation strength agrees with previous observations. The AA gun emplacement was also reported previously.

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2. Comment. The Yak-14s are courier aircraft of the headquarters of the fighter corps.

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